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## LIKED CONTACT WITH GOLD

Peculiar Vagaries That Have Affected Men Possessed of Sudden and Great Wealth.

A Parisian journalist who had speculated in railway shares won 200,000 francs as the result of a lucky venture. Drawing it in gold, he proceeded to a hotel, emptied the bags of gold in the bed and went to sleep literally in the sands of Pactolus. The man was so crazed by his good fortune that he found indescribable pleasure in revelling in a golden bath.

Paganini, the violinist, when he received the proceeds of his concert (he insisted upon being paid in gold), used to wash his hands in sovereigns. A French novelist, Soule, wrote a book called "The Memoirs of the Devil." It was successful; the publishers paid him for the first volume \$10,000 in gold. The author carried the gold to his bedroom, poured it into a foot bath, and enjoyed for half an hour the excitement of moving his feet to and fro in a bath of gold coins, smoking meanwhile the biggest of Havanas.

A Chicago merchant of great wealth, believing certain symptoms indicated that he would become insane, consulted a specialist and under his advice became an inmate of a private asylum. For twelve years there his recreation was piling up gold coins and then knocking them over. At times he washed his hands in gold eagles and half eagles. At the end of the long seclusion he returned to his business and in twelve months confirmed the thoroughness of his recovery by amassing \$500,000.

## THE SAUCY YOUNG BRUTE

Prospective Mother-in-Law Didn't Want to Lose Her Daughter, but Why the Delay?

Mrs. DeGross drew a deep sigh when her daughter told her that she had become engaged to Mr. Bobles.

"I suppose it's foolish of me to feel so bad about it," she said, wiping her eyes, "but I can't help it. I know it's a woman's destiny to be married, dear, and I have always hoped that you would marry and be happy. But a mother can never lose a daughter without feeling deeply on the subject. She can never help regarding it as an awful loss—a tragedy. She cannot give up her little girl, even to the best man that ever lived, without the deepest reluctance."

"But, mother, dear—I shall come and see you often. And you mustn't cry as if it were going to happen right away. You will have time to get used to it."

"Will it? How soon are you to be married?"

"Not for nearly a year. Bob thinks that—"

"Not for a year? What on earth does he mean by putting it off that long? I don't believe he intends to marry you at all, the sniveling young snip! If he did, he'd insist on having the wedding before September. And I shall tell him so. You bring him to me, Clara. You tell him that he'll either marry you next month or never. Huh! I'll show him!"

## Education.

What is education? Emerson says that the greatest teacher is not the teacher who supplies the pupil with the most facts, but the one in whose presence the pupil becomes a better person. The great secret of education lies in respecting the wants of the pupil. It is not for us to say what another shall know or even do. That part of the game of life is chosen and foreordained and the pupil alone holds the key to his own needs. Emerson begs us to respect the child. He reiterates his plea to respect and wait and see the new product of nature develop. We are not to be too much the pupil's parent. We are not to be too often in his solitude. We are to let him alone. Give the pupil an opportunity to exercise and express his every faculty, and then—hands off!

## About Thimbles.

The thimble was at first worn on the thumb, and for that reason was called a thumb bell, which later became thimble and finally thimble. It was invented by the Dutch, and brought to England in 1595.

The first thimbles were made of iron or brass; later came those of silver, gold, steel, horn, ivory, pearl and glass. The Chinese make beautiful thimbles of carved pearl, with gold binding and ends.

One of the most gorgeous thimbles ever seen was a bridal gift from the king of Siam to his queen; it was made of gold, shaped like a lotus bud, and was thickly studded with diamonds, arranged so as to spell the queen's name.

## Bargain Sale in Moving Pictures.

A suburban draper has hit on a novel idea, says the London Chronicle. The scenes at his great bargain sale are to be reproduced at a local picture theater. "Go and see it—see if you can recognize yourself in the crowd." To all his patrons the enterprising shopkeeper issues tickets which admit to the show at reduced prices. Will it answer? Of course. For he appeals to two human instincts—the desire for a bargain and the desire to see oneself, as it were, in a looking glass—cheap. Why else does anyone turn and glance at the reflections in a free looking glass? The shopkeeper appeals to the common meanness and vanity of his fellow mortals.

## LIFE INSURANCE IS POPULAR

More Than Twenty-Eight Million Persons in America Hold in Regular Companies.

The number of persons in this country who make use of life insurance as a means of saving exceeds the total number who avail themselves of all the other recognized modes of thrift.

If we add together the nine millions of savings bank depositors, the seven millions of persons who own their own homes, the two million building and loan society stockholders and the million and three-quarters of corporation stockholders, we shall have, not reckoning duplications, not more than twenty millions of investors.

Whereas, according to Moody's Magazine, the number of persons who hold policies, ordinary and industrial, in life insurance companies, exceeds twenty-eight millions. These twenty-eight millions do not include the number of certificate holders in fraternal and assessment associations, old line or legal reserve life insurance being the only kind of insurance that is worth the serious attention of business men.

The total life insurance carried in the United States today is about \$150 a head of the population, a sum considerably greater than that of any other country in the world. The companies reporting to the New York insurance department had on December 31, 1910, \$14,680,268,315 insurance in force. They had a total premium income of \$533,060,996 and assets amount to \$3,665,630,535, which represents approximately as large a sum of money as the total savings in all the banks of the country.

## DEFINED



"Woman is a riddle," remarked the Fly Flat.

"Yes," agreed the Simple Mug. "She keeps us guessing, and we hate to give her up."

## BUT ONE OF FAMILY LEFT.

A tragedy in which a family was almost entirely annihilated, occurred a few days ago at Châtelleraut, France. M. Jourdain was with his wife and three children on the banks of the Vienne. Mme. Jourdain was standing on a sandy bank about to bathe her little daughter, when the bank gave way and both fell into the river, which is about twenty-five feet deep. M. Jourdain jumped in to save his wife and child, but he, too, disappeared. Then the eldest son, a boy of sixteen, jumped in and sank, the second boy, aged ten, followed his brother, and was drowning when Lieutenant Philipponneau, who was in a boat, arrived on the scene and dived after the youngest boy. He seized the lad and managed to reach the bank safely with him. The bodies of M. and Mme. Jourdain and the two other children were recovered later.

## BRAVERY TO BE REWARDED.

A memorial in the shape of a crucifix is to be erected by the British government on the Rock Tion-gue-neau on the coast of Brest, where 17 bodies were recovered from the wreck of the British steamer Kurdistan several months ago. The ceremony of the unveiling of the monument will take place in a few months' time, and rewards will then be given by the British government to the Breton sailors who rescued the bodies.

## NATURAL DISTINCTIONS.

"Pop, ain't a horse pistol a big one?"  
"Yes, Willie."  
"Then is a Colt revolver a little one, pop?"

## HAVE GOOD IDEA OF DRESS

Many Men Possess the Artistic Eye When It Comes to Matter of Feminine Drapery.

There is an old tradition to the effect that men lack discretion as well as artistic eye in the selection of a becomingly gowned woman. A man notoriously at sea in the matter of feminine frocks was asked to design what to his mind was a graceful dress for the beautification of the womanly figure. The result not only vindicated men of the charge of ignorance concerning the becoming feminine drapery, but established for him a wisdom and artistry in designing that many devotees of the latest sartorial spasm, be it modestly pretty or daintily ridiculous, will do well to cultivate.

The fabric of the gown evolved by the mere man was a soft clinging crepe de chine of shadowy blue tone. It was cut in kimono fashion, with loose-hanging Oriental sleeves. The neck was slightly rounded out to show the smooth, white column of the throat, and the gown hung free from the shoulders, falling in long, sweeping lines, with just a suspicion of a sweep at the back. In front an elongated buckle of the blue material, embroidered with dull gold threads, held a wide girdle, which was wound around the waist empire fashion, tied in an odd knot, with short upstanding loops in the back, from whence long, loose ends, finished with gold and blue, fell to the bottom of the skirt. The dress gave a slightly empire effect, and the whole gown appeared to swathe the figure in folds of pastel blue. Such a gown must in the very nature of itself, conceal any offending angular lines, just as it would of necessity heighten the symmetry of the softly curving ones. Grace of carriage and elegance of attire were its indubitable followers, so much so that one wonders why the distress and fatigue of countless hours at the dressmaker's are endured, when art is so very simple.

## THEIR APPETITES WITH THEM

2½ Pounds of Meat and 12 Quarts of Strong Drink Per Capita Is French Record.

Frenchmen are pretty able trenchermen, but the following account of a meal made by eight Norman peasants surpasses expectations. According to the Medical Journal, a grazier with seven of his friends undertook an expedition to gather fagots.

Among them they should have managed some 400 fagots, but 37 represented the sum of their work, the small total being accounted for, possibly by the luncheon which the octet devoured. They managed to consume 20 pounds of meat, 8 quarts of pure perry, 16 bottles of assorted wines, 9 bottles of champagne and 8 quarts of cider brandy of an alcoholic strength of 65 per cent. A roast goose, placed thoughtfully among the rations, was not required.

This luncheon represents an average of 2½ pounds of meat and 12 quarts of milk, none of it weak, per capita during the 12 hours occupied by the expedition.

## Color of the Eye.

Brown eyes are due to a brown pigment laid down in the iris; blue eyes are due to a lack of such pigment. When both parents are brown-eyed the children get the tendency to form iris pigment from both sides of the house, and the condition of the pigment is said to be duplex. If the children get the tendency from one parent only, they will have brown eyes, but the condition is said to be simplex. Two parents lacking brown in the iris (blue eyed) will never have children with brown eyes, but only with blue eyes. If both parents have brown eyes simplex, then one in four of the children will have blue eyes. If one parent has simplex brown eyes and the other has blue eyes, one-half of the children will have blue eyes. But if in both or either one of the parents the blue iris pigmentation is duplex, all of the offspring will have brown eyes.

## The Return of the Prodigal.

When the elder brother of the Prodigal Son came near his father's house he heard, according to the Authorized Version, "music and dancing." Dr. Rendel Harris, in address at Westminster college, Cambridge, says that the word for music in the original is "symphony," and that symphony means the bagpipes. Wycliffe's version gives the word symphony, but no other translator has done so. Wycliffe also says that he heard "symphony and a crowd." Now, crowd is the Welsh crwth or harp. In view of the two instruments, Dr. Harris says that the elder brother had some justification for getting angry.—Christian World.

## French Lawyers Went on Strike.

Over 300 years ago one of the most unusual strikes ever recorded took place in Paris, when all the lawyers walked out, so to speak. A law or ordinance was issued and promulgated by the French king, Henry III., ordering all lawyers to sign their pleadings and to state the amount they were charging their clients for their services. This was done so that the lawyers could be properly and sufficiently taxed on their income. The lawyers objected, and the strike, causing an entire stay of judicial proceedings, followed. Peace was restored by the non-enforcement of the ordinance, though it was not repealed.

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